



Front page of keepsake presented to attendees of the Sesquicentennial Meeting in New York on January 30, 1982

And a birthday celebration it was!! The opening of the Morgan Library's Lewis Carroll Exhibit, the Society's meeting at the Morgan Library, the gallery exhibits by Barooshian and Moser, the showing of *Alice* films in both Washington and New York, and the bookstore window displays on New York's Fifth Avenue, all were happenings during the week of the 150th anniversary of Lewis Carroll's birth.

In England, the Daresbury branch of the English Society had an anniversary dinner that was headed with the quote: "I have always maintained the principle", the professor began, "that it is a good rule to take some food—occasionally." At Oxford, a dinner was held in the Christ Church rooms formerly lived in by Carroll. Edward Wakeling writes from England: "At Christ Church, the chef did a special menu: Mock Turtle soup, Leg of Mutton, Duchess Potatoes, etc. and Jam Tarts with cream. We ate in the old Lecture Room, probably used by Lewis Carroll—and I arranged for the Herkomer portrait of Dodgson to be hung in the room for the dinner. We also had the Christ Church flag flying (normally reserved for Royal births, and deaths of Deans!)."

☐ Fill up the Glasses with Treacle and Ink. . .

Activities in New York began on the night of January 27 (the anniversary of Carroll's birthday) with a black-tie reception at the Morgan Library and the opening of the Lewis Carroll exhibit of items from the collection of Arthur Houghton, Jr. Through many long and arduous weeks, Morton Cohen had assembled this fantastic exhibit. The officers and past presidents of the Society were invited to the opening along with a roster of Who's Who in New York.

Saturday morning (January 30) our Society members were treated to a personally guided tour of the exhibit by Morton Cohen. The gem of the exhibit was the original *Alice* manuscript loaned by the British Library. In addition, were such items (from the Houghton collection) as Alice's ring, her letter seal and her writing desk, Carroll's letters, photographs, books and belongings. To Morton Cohen and the cooperative staff of the Morgan Library the whole world of Lewis Carroll enthusiasts owe a loud "Thank you" that welcomed Lewis Carroll and Alice with "ninety times nine."

□ **A Proclamation**

The Society's meeting in the afternoon opened with Janet Jurist, the Society's New York arranger par excellence, reading the following proclamation from the Mayor of New York.

The City of New York
Office of the Mayor
New York, N.Y. 10007

January 27, 1982

To All in Attendance
Celebration of "Lewis Carroll Day" in New York City

Greetings:

On behalf of the millions of New Yorkers of all ages who share a very special friendship with "Alice in Wonderland," I extend this salute on the 150th birthday of Lewis Carroll.

The Lewis Carroll Society of North America and The Pierpont Morgan Library, whose marvelous exhibition is opening today, merit our thanks and congratulations.

Accordingly, may this sesquicentennial celebration of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson's birth prove to be a memorable and festive occasion, but may the other 364 "un-birthdays" be celebrated with equal wonder and delight!

As Humpty Dumpty "outgrabed" to Alice (after she had said she liked "birthday presents best"):

"There are three hundred and sixty-four days when you might get un-birthday presents . . . but only *one* for birthday presents, you know."

Sincerely,
/s/
Edward I. Koch
Mayor

□ **Six impossible things before breakfast.**

One might as well say "Nine speakers between 1:00 and 4:30." But impossible or not, it happened. The Society's meeting on January 30 had three main speakers, six "commentary" speakers, and a proclamation reader. The Society was honored that Dr. Selwyn Goodacre, the guiding spirit of the English Society, came directly to New York from the Daresbury dinner. At our meeting, in a talk entitled "A Quizzical Look at *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*" Dr. Goodacre discussed Victorian teaching methods as revealed in the conversations with the Caterpillar and others, and mused on the Dormouse's method of story telling as an insight into Carroll's own extemporaneous style. In a lighter vein, he looked at odd aspects in the behavior of the White Rabbit and Duchess, and closed with a suggested verdict on the Knave of Hearts' guilt.

Dr. Colin Ford of the National Portrait Gallery in London gave a most insightful talk on "Lewis Carroll—Photographer." His extensively illustrated lecture covered the whole spectrum of photography in the 1800s, and explained the intricacies and complications involved with the long exposure times (a half a minute or more of not moving) and the need to go through an immediate and involved development procedure. In spite of all these handicaps, Carroll's pictures remain among the best of photographs of young girls.

Dr. James Kincaid of the University of Colorado expounded on "Confessions of a Carroll Critic." He described the responsibilities of an annotator and how the temptation to dominate the text was a hard one to suppress. The ideal annotator should carefully choose subjects that would help unlock the author's message, thereby elevating the text to greater heights. Dr. Kincaid is the annotator of the Pennyroyal *Alice*.

An "off with their heads" order was out for any "commentator" who took more than five minutes. No heads rolled! Dr. Morton Cohen told about his experiences of putting the exhibit together, and how he had expected to have a dislike for Carroll after so much exposure to him, but the opposite had happened. His respect for Dodgson was greater than ever.

Dr. Sandor Burstein gave a preview of his article in the current (Spring 1981) *Jabberwocky* entitled "The Alice in Wonderland Syndrome." He quoted from *The International Classification of Diseases* where the "Alice in Wonderland Syndrome" is listed as code designation 293.89. He cautioned that this disease had nothing to do with "the passions or madness of collectors, litterateurs, or ordinary members of Lewis Carroll Societies. *Those* illnesses probably require: chronic mania (296.0), recurrent mania (300.3), hysterical mania (300.10), or nonproductive mania (296.89)".

Byron Sewell spoke of his efforts to show Carroll's influence in our everyday lives. He explained his ambitious attempts to list *all* the *Alice* editions ever published!

Dr. Peter Heath presented a learned discussion on the probable father of the Duchess' baby. One clue—whoever it was had very poor eyesight! Using methods available only to a philosopher, he concluded that it must have been the Frog Footman!!

Dr. Edward Guiliano had the most difficult task of providing a summary of the entire meeting. Our esteemed Vice President deftly tied together long exposure times, Victorian teaching methods, hysterical mania and Frog Footman. He even managed to find a moral in Stan Marx's contribution, the complete text of which is given below:

THE ORIGINS OF THE LEWIS CARROLL SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, BEING AN INSIGHT INTO THE CAUSES, IMPULSES AND, UNTIL NOW, UNKNOWN REASONS FOR THE BEGINNING OF THAT SOCIETY, WITH A BRIEF HISTORY OF ITS SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROBABLE FUTURE.

I'll tell you everything I can,
There's little to relate:
Some people got together
On that eventful date.
"What people? What eventful date?"
His hearers loudly pleaded.
The speaker slowly cleared his throat—
and graciously acceded.

In Nineteen Hundred and Seventy Four,
In Princeton's ivied halls—
"Must you be so pedantic?"
The impatient audience calls.
He brushed aside their rudeness
As if it were a flea—
I'll tell the story *my* way,
In perfect symmetry!

He raised his face to heaven,
A tear fell from his eye.
"Get on with it, get on with it,"
The raucous listeners cry.
For a moment there was silence
as thick as cobbler's glue;
The speaker held his breath until
His face turned deathly blue.

I've had enough, he said at last,
The story's not for you.
You probably put your right-hand foot
Into your left-hand shoe!
Be off, be off—it's plain to see
You're surly and infantile;
The story of our beginnings?
It's in the office file!

Marcus Staneo

☐ **A Continuing Celebration**

An exhibition of books from the collection of Peter Heath is on display through August 20, 1982 at the McGregor Room of the Alderman Library, University of Virginia, Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The title of the exhibit is (naturally) "Six Impossible Things Before Breakfast" . . . "We're all Mad Here", an exhibition of Carrolliana from Hilda Bohem's collection was on display at UCLA, closing on June 14.

☐ **Carroll Studies No. 6**

We are delighted to announce that our next publication will be a collection of new essays edited by James R. Kincaid and Edward Guiliano. The contents include: "Love and Death in Carroll's *Alices*" by Donald Rackin; "Falling Alice, Fallen Women, and Victorian Dream Children" by Nina Auerbach; "From Victorian Textbook to Ready-made: Lewis Carroll and the Black Art" by Jan Gordon and Edward Guiliano; "Through the Looking-Glass: Carroll's Well-Versed Narrative", by Beverly Lyon Clark; "The 1865 *Alice*: A New Appraisal and Revised Census" by Selwyn H. Goodacre; "Dodgson's Golden Hours" by Joyce Carol Oates; "She's All My Fancy Painted Him," a review essay by Kathleen Blake; as well as a review essay by Peter Heath and "Lewis Carroll in a Changing World: An Interview with Morton N. Cohen."

This collection will appear as a special Carroll sesquicentennial issue of English Language Notes, and simultaneously in hard cover as *Soaring with the Dodo: Essays on Lewis Carroll's Life and Art*, (Carroll Studies No. 6), distributed for our Society by the University Press of Virginia. It is scheduled to be available in December 1982, and paid-up members of the Society will receive a free copy.

☐ **In this style—\$5.00**

Two new items are available from the Society for members only. (1) The keepsake illustrated at the beginning of this Knight Letter. This is a limited edition of 200 copies printed by the Grenfell Press of New York City. Price—\$5.00. (2) *Lewis Carroll and Alice 1832 - 1982* by Morton N. Cohen. This is the catalog of the Morgan Library Exhibit. The price—\$5.00. Just write the Secretary, LCNSA, 617 Rockford Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902 and enclose your check.

□ Carroll Memorial Stone at Westminster Abbey

We have received the following from Anne Clark in England: "Just a note to let you know the good news that Lewis Carroll is to be commemorated in Poets' Corner later this year. I am sure you will be delighted to hear this. We are now launching a public appeal for funds to pay for the stone. Expenses are likely to be to the order of 3000 English pounds, and all donations will be most gratefully received." Make checks payable to the "Lewis Carroll Appeal Fund" and send to:

Peter M. Shaw, Treasurer
Lewis Carroll Appeal Fund,
47 Summerville Gardens,
Cheam, Surrey SM1 2BU, England

□ Alice 100 + in Holland

About once a year, the Dutch Lewis Carroll Society issues its periodical *Wauwelwok* to all its members. In 1981 *Wauwelwok* appeared in the form of an exclusive Carroll calendar, which was a sellout within a few days after its presentation in the Dutch press. The 1982 issue (written entirely in English) appeared on January 27, in celebration of the 150th birthday of Lewis Carroll. It contains a 35-page Catalogue of more than a hundred Dutch editions of "Alice in Wonderland" from 1875 to 1882, compiled by Drs. Mary Boxen and other members of Het Nederlands Lewis Carroll Genootschap.

Furthermore, this 64-page issue contains two analyses of a Russian and several Latin translations of "Jabberwocky", written by the Slavist Marietta de Waard and the Latinist Harm-Jan Van Dam. This issue of *Wauwelwok* can be obtained for \$5.00 including postage to Mr. A. M. Willemse, Postal Account No. 5092798, Purmerend, Holland. For further information on Het Nederlands Lewis Carroll Genootschap and/or previous issues of *Wauwelwok* contact Mrs. M. H. de Waard, Herman Coleniusstraat 44, 9718 KV Groningen, The Netherlands.

□ For Sale

A beautiful limited (99 copies) edition of *Jabberwocky*, 18 illustrations and handwritten text is available for \$30 from Joseph Vogel, 26 W. Dunedin Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43214. . . . Sew-So-Easy, 144 Stribing, Centerville, Va. 22904 offers *Wonderland* pillow patterns including Alice, Cheshire Cat, etc.; 8 pillow patterns for \$4.50 plus \$1.00 postage. . . . F.A.O. Schwarz, Franz Carl Weber Intl, Fifth Ave. at 58th Street has a wide-eyed Alice doll for \$32.95. . . . Alice Berkey sends details of a striking *Alice in Wonderland* serigraph by Juan Romero for \$320, unframed, which can be ordered from Concept Art Gallery, 5825 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15217.

□ The Demurova Alice

In the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* for July, 1981 under "New Reference Works" is the following:

A group of Soviet writers have produced a recent version of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There* [Priklucheniia Alisy v strane chudes. Skvoz' zerkalo i chto tam uvidela Alisa, ili Alisa v Zazerkal'e. Moscow, Izadatel'-stvo "Nauka," 1978. [359] p.]. The prose parts of the text were translated by N. M. Demurova, and the poetry by the late S. Ia. Marshak and by D. G. Orlovskaya and O. A. Sedakova. There is a commentary by the American writer, Martin Gardner, from his *Annotated Alice* (1960), with articles on various phases of Carroll's work by G. K. Chesterton, Walter de la Mare, Virginia Woolf, and by a number of Soviet scholars. One of N. M. Demurova's postscripts examines some of the problems she faced in trying to provide a Russian version of Carroll's classic. She seems to have faced her task bravely, but avows that she could have written a whole volume explaining her choices of words and constructions.

While one may wish for just such a volume of explanation, the present edition, with its copious notes, its reproduction of the Tenniel illustrations, and its sweeping consideration of the linguistic and semantic problems of the translator, is a worthy form of transmission of a classic. And, for those with an interest in such things, there is charm in the first stanza of the "Jabberwocky":

Barmaglot

Varkalos'.Khlivkiel shor'ki
Pyrialis' vo nave,
I khriukotali zeliuki
Kak miumziki v move.

When, in addition, the commentary by Martin Gardner supplies both a French and a German text of the poem—"Le Jaseroque" and "Der Jammerwoch"—the charm is only increased. For the serious scholar of linguistics or literature there is a whole range of matter for thought and research.

A copy of this translation is being processed for addition to the collections.

[Robert V. Allen]

☐ Looking Glass Worlds

The Department of Public Instruction of the State of Wisconsin published a book entitled "Looking Glass Worlds" containing letters from all sorts of people including the Vice President of the United States. The letters describe 'Looking Glass Worlds' as envisioned by the writer. Our own Newberry Award Winner, Nancy Willard, submitted a travel guide to "Looking Glass Country" that she wrote when she was eight years old. . . . Digital Equipment Corporation Educational Services claim, "there is an Alice in Wonderland character about high technology" and has produced a booklet with full color Tenniel-like illustrations. The unlikely title—"A New Approach to Computer Education for Managers and Professionals" . . . A six minute film entitled "The Walrus and the Carpenter" is available in both 16mm and 35mm versions. The film which consists of animated clay figures was made in 1979 by Malcolm Spaull. It is an interesting production.

☐ Final Alice

The first two paragraphs of a review in the Washington Post by Richard Freed:

"Final Alice", the most widely performed (so far) representative of David Del Tredici's productive obsession with the works of Lewis Carroll, has finally been recorded, and superbly, by the performers who gave the work's premiere five years ago, soprano Barbara Hendricks and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra under Sir George Solti (London LDR-71018).

The recording was made digitally less than two years ago and is a marvel of wide-open realism. Hendricks is even more of a marvel. She has very few bars' rest in the 59 minute sequence, switching from narration to singing, from full voice to pinched effect or bull horn, and all the while sustaining the most enchanting level of commitment, joyous involvement and communicativeness. Everyone involved seems to be having a marvelous time, and the listener can hardly help breaking out in a smile of delight.

☐ Show Biz

Janet Jurist informs us of "one of the wildest, way out renderings of *Alice* I have ever seen—no formal script, costumes a mixture of late Picasso and early Halloween, show uproariously funny"—a production in May, 1981 in Amsterdam. . . . The New York Times reports that Eva Le Gallienne will return to Broadway in *Alice in Wonderland*, her production of 1932 that was revived in 1947. Miss Le Gallienne will co-direct with John Strasberg, Lee Strasberg's son. . . . *Looking Glass* by Michael Sutton and Cynthia Mandelberg—a play about Lewis Carroll and Charles Dodgson (both of them) opened and closed on June 14, 1982 in spite of a friendly New York Times review. Other reviews were not so kind. Janet Jurist saw a preview and liked it . . . Nancy Willard sends an interesting program of an *Alice in Wonderland Children's Ballet* presented at the Kenya National Theatre on May 14-16. The children came from sixteen countries . . . As part of her doctoral research, Margaret Meecham presented a one act *Alice* opera at the University of Maryland on May 1. The production included three singers and a fifteen-piece orchestra . . . Alan Booth stage-managed a "Poets and Storytellers Theatre" at a "Cavalier Days" celebration in Prince Frederick, Maryland in May. Mr. Booth had fine slides of Christ Church and narrated the "Wasp in a Wig" with gusto. Some Schaefer films were also presented.

☐ *Lewis Carroll In Wonderland and at Home* by Belle Moses— binding variants noted by Selwyn Goodacre.

As the only biographical study of Lewis Carroll between the Isa Bowman tribute of 1899 and Langford Reed's biography in 1932, the 1910 Moses work merits more attention than it usually receives. There appear to be at least two binding variants:

a. Dull green cloth boards, with climbing plant design signed at the bottom right hand corner 'AR', an inkwell-quillpen-open book design in the lower centre and an ornamental panel above—all in blind; the title and author in white on the panel. The spine has the title etc. in white with the inkwell design repeated in blind; back cover is blank (S.H. Goodacre copy).

b. Pale blue cloth boards with title and author in black with two unequal parallel lines between. The spine has the title etc. in royal blue; back cover is blank (Schaefer copy). Are there others?

S.H.G.

☐ Publications spied by Peter Heath

1. Mavis Batey—*Alice's Adventures in Oxford*, illustrated booklet, published by Pitkin Pictorials, 11 Wyford Rd., London SW6, England, 95 p., 1980. Biographical guide to Carroll's Oxford.

Same: "The Gardens of Alice in Wonderland", article in *Country Life*, Oct. 24, 1981, pp. 1456-7.

2. Elizabeth Morrison—*Reeling and Writing and Dyslexia*; parody of *Alice*, with Tenniel and other illustrations, advocating better reading methods for the young. Published by author, at Granhams, Great Shelford, Cambs., Eng. at \$2.00.
3. M. Hutchings & D. Cook: *Toys from Alice in Wonderland*; designs and instructions for stuffed figures. Mills & Boon, £5.50, 1979.

4. E. Laithwaite: *Engineer through the Looking Glass*; popular experimental science, with Alician undertones throughout: chapter headings, quotations, Tenniel illustrations, chess and mirror problems, etc. BBC Publications, £8.25, 1980.
Same: *Engineer in Wonderland*, English Universities Press, 1968 (Not seen, out of print).
5. Julianne Ford—*Paradigms and Fairy Tales*; Kooky academic treatise (in 2 vols) on sociological method, with copious Alician references, Routledge and Kegan Paul, £8.50, 1975.
6. Gerald M. King: *Curiouser & Curiouser!* Catalog of 130 Wonderland stamps and 20 covers. Stamps are £10.00 a set (£12.50 mounted), covers, £17.50, or £1.99 each. Add postage. Elegant and witty designs, from the author of *Alice Through the Pillar-Box*, 18 Grove Rd., London E17.

[Articles and Magazines]

7. *Jabberwocky*—A New Zealand magazine for children. Has 'Mad Hatter's Corner', etc.
8. *Harvard Gazette*, May 19, 1981 has 'When Alice Last in the Blue Book Looked', an extract from R.C. Evarts: "Alice's Adventures in Cambridge", first pub. in *Harvard Lampoon*, 1913, Parody.
9. *Antiquarian Bookman*, Nov. 16, 1981, has "Collecting the Works of Lewis Carroll", by Justin Schiller.
10. *N.Y. Times Magazine*, Dec. 20, 1982, has "Christmas with Lewis Carroll", by Morton Cohen. Alician cover design (Tenniel) and illustrations.
11. *The Monthly*, Berkeley, CA, Aug. 1980, has "The Demands of Mr. Dodgson", by Abe Cedarian, Bibliographical.
12. *The World Almanac Book of Buffs*, 1980, has an entry on Dr. Sandor Burstein, pp. 169-170.

[Oddments]

13. The 1st verse of Richard Wilbur's poem 'Fourth of July' refers throughout to *Alice*.
14. HRH Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, died on Jan. 3, 1981, aged 97. A grandchild of Queen Victoria; Carroll met her (aged 6) at Hatfield, later at Oxford, and gave her an *Alice* biscuit tin. *London Times* obituary, Jan. 5, 1981.

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